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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA PRIORITY

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

GENEVA FOR CSCE AND NPT REVIEW

INFO FOR PAOS

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1. HIGHLIGHTS. INDOCHINA REFUGEES HAVE BEEN FRONTPAGED
THURSDAY THROUGH MONDAY; FRIDAY SOME FRONTPAGED BREZHNEV
PUSHES DETENTE; SATURDAY PAPERS FEATURED SENATE PANEL CUTS
MILITARY BUDGET; SUNDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGED KISSINGER SAN-

GUINE ON CUBA. SCATTERED COMMENT INCLUDES SOME ON NPT CONFERENCE.

1A. SOME THURSDAY PAPERS REPORTED SALT RECESS INSIDE; WASHPOST REPORTED GROUPS PRESS HILL TO SCUTTLE BOMBER FLEET. FRIDAY BALTSUN REPORTED DETENTE THREATENED BY U.S. SALT DEMANDS. FRIDAY PAPERS REPORTED KISSINGER TO MEET GROMYKO MAY 19, ALSO KISSINGER SETS EUROPE TOUR TO STRESS U.S. RESOLVE; ALSO BREZHNEV HAILS VIET VICTORY, PUSHES DETENTE; PLUS NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION POSTPONES DECISION ON LICENSING PLUTONIUM AS REACTOR FUEL. NYTIMES REPORTED CONFEREES SLASH DEFENSE BUDGET.

1B. SATURDAY PAPERS REPORTED FROM MOSCOW AGAIN; WASHPOST ALSO REPORTED U.S. SOVIET WARSHIPS TO TRADE VISITS. SUNDAY NYTIMES REPORTED U.S. TO ORBIT TWO SATELLITES FOR ITS DEFENSE NETWORK. SUNDAY BALTSUN HAD SOVIET TALKS FAIL TO BRING ARAB UNITY ON GENEVA; ALSO BRUSSELS STORY ON US-NATO RELATIONS; MONDAY BALTSUN HAS ANOTHER.

2. SALT. THURSDAY NYTIMES GENEVA SPECIAL REPORTED SALT RECESS UNTIL JUNE 2 TO ENABLE DELEGATIONS TO RETURN TO THEIR CAPITALS FOR CONSULTATIONS, ADDING NEGOTIATING DIFFICULTIES ARE BELIEVED TO PARTIALLY EXPLAIN POSTPONEMENT UNTIL FALL OF SUMMIT. SPECIAL ADDS DR. IKLE REPLIED TO REPORTERS THAT AN INTERRUPTION IN THE TALKS WOULD NOT SIGNIFY A BREAKDOWN.

2A. WASHSTAR HAD UNSIGNED GENEVA SAYING RECESS CAME AMID REPORTS OF DIFFERENCES OVER HOW TO VERIFY PROVISIONS OF VLADIVOSTOK ACCORD, ADDING JOHNSON MET WITH SEMENOV THEN LEFT FOR BRUSSELS TO BRIEF NATO COUNCIL. STORY ADDS SOURCES IN WASHINGTON REPORTED TECHNICAL DEADLOCK OVER HOW TO IDENTIFY AND VERIFY MIRVS.

2B. FRIDAY BALTSUN TREWHITT WASHINGTON REPORTED SALT NEGOTIATIONS HAD FROZEN ON TWO U.S. DEMANDS THAT FORD UNCLASSIFIED

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ADMINISTRATION REGARDS AS FUNDAMENTAL, ACCORDING INFORMED OFFICIALS WHO SAID THE IMPLICATIONS ARE BOTH MILITARY AND POLITICAL, AND UNLESS THE DISAGREEMENTS ARE RESOLVED WHOLE PROCESS OF DETENTE COULD SUFFER DRAMATICALLY. SALT TALKS STALLED, SAID TREWHITT, ON THE NATURE OF SOVIET WEAPONS TO BE INCLUDED UNDER PREVIOUSLY AGREED CEILINGS, CITING U.S. INSISTENCE ON COUNTING BACKFIRE BOMBERS UNDER CEILING AND U.S. POSITION THAT EVERY MISSILE IN A CLASS WHICH HAS BEEN TESTED WITH MIRVS BE ASSUMED TO CARRY SUCH WARHEADS, ALTHOUGH IT IS UNCERTAIN WHETHER U.S. CLAIMS SS-16 AND SS-18 BE INCLUDED UNDER CEILING AS WELL AS SS-17 AND SS-19. TREWHITT SAYS SALT WILL BE ONE TOPIC WHEN KISSINGER SEES GROMYKO MAY 19, ADDING ONE U.S.

OFFICIAL INSISTED THAT REPORTS OF A SALT BREAKDOWN ARE INACCURATE, QUITE EXAGGERATED.

3. DEFENSE BUDGET. THURSDAY WASHPOST GETLER LOCAL REPORTED A COALITION OF MORE THAN 25 LIBERAL, LABOR, RELIGIOUS GROUPS ANNOUNCED A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO PERSUADE CONGRESS TO KILL AIR FORCE PLANS TO BUILD A 20-BILLION FLEET OF B-1 BOMBERS, GETLER GIVING OPPOSITION AND PENTAGON ARGUMENTS, ALSO QUOTING JEREMY STONE OF FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SCIENTISTS THAT IF CONGRESS PRESERVES THE B-1, IT WILL REPRESENT THE BANKRUPTCY OF CONGRESS IN DEALING WITH DEFENSE PROGRAMS.

3A. FRIDAY NYTIMES SHANAHAN WASHINGTON REPORTED NEW HOUSE-SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE AGREED TO CUT DEFENSE BY 3.3 BILLIONS, WHICH ALONG WITH OTHER BUDGET CHANGES, WOULD PRODUCE A 67-BILLION DEFICIT, ABOUT THE SAME AS FORD PROPOSED.

3B. SATURDAY WASHSTAR LOCAL REPORTED SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE CUT 5.5 BILLIONS FROM 30.3 BILLION REQUESTED FOR WEAPONS PROCUREMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORIZATION, ADDING STENNIS SAID COMMITTEE GAVE GREEN LIGHT TO B-1 BOMBER BY APPROVING CONSTRUCTION OF A FOURTH PROTOTYPE, ALSO SAID COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS MILITARY MANPOWER BE REDUCED THROUGH FURTHER CUTS IN COMMAND HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT TROOPS WITHOUT CURTAILING COMBAT FORCES.

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3C. SATURDAY WASHPOST GETLER REPORTED COMMITTEE MADE ONE OF DEEPEST SLASHES IT HAS EVER MADE, BUT IT MANAGED TO PRESERVE VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE PENTAGON'S HIGHEST PRIORITY PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE CONTROVERSIAL PLAN TO BUILD A FLEET OF B-1 BOMBERS. GETLER ADDED STENNIS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT NEARLY HALF THE SAVINGS WERE ILLUSORY-- EITHER MONEY NO LONGER NEEDED, AS IN VIETNAM, OR NOT YET NEEDED. GETLER SAID PANEL ABOLISHED ALMOST 7 MILLION WANTED FOR DEVELOPING SO-CALLED BINARY CHEMICAL WEAPONS, RECOMMENDING INSTEAD THAT WORK BE STEPPED UP ON DEFENSE AGAINST CHEMICAL WARFARE. FULL COMMITTEE RESTORED 109 MILLIONS FOR FIVE CONTROVERSIAL PROJECTS AIMED AT MAKING LONG-RANGE MISSILES INCREASINGLY ACCURATE AND POWERFUL.

3D. SATURDAY NYTIMES FINNEY ADDED THAT SENATE COMMITTEE IN CUTTING 9 PERCENT EXCEEDED HOUSE COMMITTEE'S REDUCTION OF AROUND 7 PERCENT. FINNEY SAID MCGOVERN WILL LEAD AN EFFORT TO STOP B-1 DEVELOPMENT ON FLOOR, AND MCINTYRE WILL RENEW HIS FIGHT ON MORE ACCURATE MISSILES. BALTSUN CORDDRY SAID COMMITTEE APPROVED CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF B-1 BUT REFUSED 222 MILLIONS FOR ADVANCE PRODUCTION MATERIALS.

4. NATO. SUNDAY BALTSUN OISHI BRUSSELS STRESSED THAT FORD COMES TO EUROPE AT A TIME WHEN THE WESTERN MILITARY ALLIANCE APPEARS TO BE CRUMBLING AT THE EDGES AND WHEN THE U.S. LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO THE DEFENSE OF EUROPE IS IN DOUBT, OISHI ADDING THAT COMMUNIQUE AFTER NATO MAY 30 MEETING WILL RECONFIRM TRANSATLANTIC SOLIDARITY BUT NO ONE AT NATO HEADQUARTERS EXPECTS FORD VISIT TO SOLVE ANY OF PROBLEMS FACING THE ALLIANCE OR SWEEP AWAY DOUBTS ABOUT AMERICA'S RELIABILITY, BECAUSE THESE DOUBTS REFER TO

THE AMERICAN PUBLIC NOT MR. FORD.

4A. MONDAY BALTSUN OISHI BRUSSELS STRESSES THAT AT NATO HQ U.S. CONGRESS IS RUNNING A CLOSE SECOND TO SOVIET UNION AS NO. 1 ENEMY, OISHI SAYING THE REASON IS THE CONGRESSIONAL ARMS EMBARGO ON TURKEY, WHICH NATO SOURCES SAY THREATENS THE SOUTHEASTERN FLANK OF NATO AS MUCH AS THE CYPRUS CONFLICT WHICH HAS PLACED GREECE AND TURKEY ON UNCLASSIFIED

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THE VERGE OF WAR WITH ONE ANOTHER. OISHI ALSO MENTIONS CONGRESSIONAL AMENDMENT THAT SEEMS TO CALL FOR UNILATERAL REDUCTIONS OF U.S. NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE, ALSO A MOVE THREATENING U.S. TROOP REDUCTIONS UNLESS EUROPEANS OFFSET THE BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS COSTS OF STATIONING U.S. FORCES IN EUROPE.

5. SOVIET UNION. THURSDAY BALTSUN HEADLINED PARKS MOSCOW, HARRIMAN SAYS STALIN FELT NAZIS COULD HAVE WON; NEAR END OF STORY PARKS QUOTES HARRIMAN AGREEING WITH RUSSIANS RED ARMY BROKE THE BACK OF THE GERMAN ARMY BUT EACH OF THE ALLIES MADE WHAT CONTRIBUTION IT COULD WHEN IT COULD, CITING AMERICAN-BRITISH BOMBINGS OVER GERMANY AND THE AFRICAN AND ITALIAN CAMPAIGNS. FRIDAY BALTSUN HAD PARKS STRESSING BREZHNEV SAID END OF INDOCHINA WAR OPENS THE WAY TO SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS, AND COMMUNIST LEADER IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN A NEW ARMS-CONTROL AGREEMENT AS HE WARNED AGAINST ANY PAUSES IN DEVELOPMENT OF DETENTE. "RIDAY NYTIMES SPECIAL SIMILAR. FRIDAY WASHPOST OSNOS ADDED HARRIMAN SAID DETENTE WAS THE REASON BRITISH AND AMERICAN WAR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE GETTING MORE ATTENTION THIS YEAR. IN SATURDAY WASHPOST OSNOS NOTED THAT A STATEMENT SIGNED BY THE ENTIRE SOVIET LEADERSHIP SAID TENSIONS WERE ABATING BECAUSE OF HISTORIC AGREEMENTS, PARTICULARLY THE SOVIET-AMERICAN NUCLEAR PACTS. SATURDAY BALTSUN PARKS ALSO DESCRIBED KREMLIN STATEMENT AT LENGTH, ADDING THAT A SPOKESMAN FOR HARRIMAN SAID LATTER'S MEETING WITH KOSYGIN WAS FRIENDLY AND OPTIMISTIC IN TONE.

5A. SATURDAY WASHPOST LOCAL AP REPORTED WARSHIP VISITS IN LENINGRAD AND BOSTON ARE SET FOR MONDAY, THIS BEING FIRST NAVAL VISIT EXCHANGE, AND THE 800 OFFICERS AND MEN IN EACH VISITING FORCE ARE EXPECTED TO GO ASHORE FOR SIGHTSEEING, PENTAGON SPOKESMAN LAITIN ADDING THAT GROUPS OF RUSSIAN VISITORS WILL BE PERMITTED TO BOARD U.S. VESSELS IN LENINGRAD BUT IT WASN'T CERTAIN WHETHER

AMERICANS WILL BE ALLOWED ON SOVIET VESSELS AT BOSTON.

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6. NPT COMMENT. NYPOST MAY 6 EDITORIAL DISCUSSED AWESOME JOB OF NPT REVIEW, ADDING A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT HAS GONE INTO DEFINING THE PROBLEMS FOR THE CONFERENCE AND THAT IS A BEGINNING. HOPE FOR PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS RESTS WITH WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW WHICH COULD JOINTLY SUSPEND NUCLEAR TESTS, ALSO COULD PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL REGULATION AND SUPERVISION OF REACTOR MATERIALS AS SUGGESTED BY SEN. SYMINGTON.

6A. C.S. MONITOR MAY 6 ALSO ON CONFERENCE SAW HOPE IN NEW COOPERATIVE EFFORTS BY U.S. AND SOVIET UNION SIGNALLED BY JOINT RELEASE OF POLICY REPORTS BY PANEL OF AMERICANS AND PANEL OF RUSSIANS UNDER AUSPICES OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS OF TWO COUNTRIES WHICH RECOMMEND MEANS OF ENCOURAGING ABSTINENCE FROM NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS BY NON-NUCLEAR COUNTRIES: 1, INTERNATIONALLY SAFEGUARDED HELP FROM NUCLEAR COUNTRIES; 2, SELF-CONTROL BY NUCLEAR COUNTRIES IN DEVELOPMENT OF WEAPONS, WITH SALT THREE ACTUALLY CUTTING BACK ON NUKES. MONITOR APPROVES U.S. PANEL STATEMENT ON NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE IN WHICH USE OF NUKES IS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE AND IN WHICH POLITICAL UTILITY OF POSSESSING NUCLEAR WEAPONS STEADILY DIMINISHES.

6B. CHICAGO TRIBUNE MAY 5 SAID WE MUST HAVE A WORLD IN WHICH SUPERPOWERS MAKE SINCERE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, IN WHICH THEY MAINTAIN DEPENDABLE ALLIANCES WITH NONNUCLEAR NATIONS, AND IN WHICH THE PEACEFUL BLESSINGS OF NUCLEAR POWER ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL MEN. OTHERWISE LIFE WILL BE INCREASINGLY RISKY FOR ALL OF US; HENCE THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF GENEVA CONFERENCE.

6C. JAMES RESTON NYTIMES MAY 11 DEVOTED HIS COLUMN TO STRESSING DR. IKLE'S POINTS ON NEED, IN THIS THE SECOND NUCLEAR AGE WHICH FOLLOWS THE FIRST AGE OF NUCLEAR MONOPOLY, FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO CONTROL THE MENACE OF THE VASTLY INCREASED FLOW OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS WHICH MAKES NUCLEAR WEAPONS POTENTIALLY AVAILABLE TO CRIMINAL GROUPS. IKLE'S HOPE IS THAT THIS COMMON DANGER WILL PRODUCE RENEWED INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION.

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7. OTHER COMMENT. NYTIMES MAY 9 EDITORIAL WAS ENTITLED, DEFENSE DEFENDED, CITING POINTS MADE IN RECENT GELB ARTICLE AND SAYING A NERVOUS WORLD IS BEGINNING TO GET SOME REASSURANCE AMERICA'S POSTURE WILL NOT BE ONE OF

RENUNCIATION OF WORLD RESPONSIBILITIES. DEFENSE PROGRAM ON B-1 BOMBER AND TRIDENT SHOULD PROVIDE FOR FURTHER STUDY RATHER THAN ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT, AND CONGRESS SHOULD DISAPPROVE HALF-DOZEN PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE ACCURACY OF LONG-RANGE MISSILES; BUT WHAT MUST CERTAINLY BE AVOIDED AT THIS TIME IS THE KIND OF LARGE-SCALE DEFENSE BUDGET REDUCTION THAT WOULD BE SEEN ABROAD AS A POLICY CHANGE.

7A. CHINEWS MAY 3 EDITORIALIZED ON ANOTHER LOOK AT DETENTE. SAYING VICTORY FOR COMMUNISTS IN INDOCHINA MAY PROMPT, AS IN KOREA, SOVIET ENCOURAGEMENT OF ANOTHER MILITARY VENTURE WITHOUT DIRECT INVOLVEMENT. UNLESS U.S. FINDS BETTER WAYS TO COPE WITH SUCH THREATS THAN IT DID IN VIETNAM, SAID CHINEWS, OUTLOOK IS DIM. INGERSOLL

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